

CHASTELAIN AND PONVERT.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 27.]

FEBRUARY 29, 1840.

Mr. VANDERPOEL, from the Committee of Ways and Means, made the following

REPORT:

*The Committee of Ways and Means, to whom the petition of Messrs. Chastelain and Ponvert was referred, report :*

The schooner General Jackson, with a cargo of sugar, hides, &c., from the island of Cuba, arrived at the quarantine ground, below New York, on the 4th of September, 1831 : she was entered on the 5th, and bonds were given for the duties on the cargo. After landing the hides at the quarantine, the schooner came up on the 6th, in the evening ; and, according to the quarantine regulations, she was compelled to anchor in the stream, opposite the city, for the purpose of discharging the residue of her cargo. She was placed in the custody of a custom-house officer ; part of the cargo was discharged ; and, on the night of the 8th of September, the vessel and the remainder of her cargo were destroyed by fire, originating from some unknown cause. The petitioners pray that they may not be charged with duty on the property destroyed.

The petitioners appear to be justly entitled to relief. The vessel and part of her cargo were destroyed while in the custody of an inspector of the revenue, and while at anchor in the East river. There seems to have been no negligence or delay in discharging the cargo ; and no insurance on the amount of the duty could well be made, until the cargo was landed and in possession of the owner or consignee. The committee report a bill for the relief of the petitioners.

Blair & Rives, printers.

REPORT

NEW YORK, N.Y.,

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